1: Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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An Orokaiva Youth wearing
Head-dress and *Hoso*

[Frontispiece]

1:Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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(*a*) An Aiga Native

(*b*) A Wasida Native

(*c*) An Aiga Native

PLATE I [facing p. 6]

1:Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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ground for assuming that the exceptions, viz. especially the bull-roarer and sacred flute, are later introductions.

The present report, which aims at describing the Orokaiva people alone, may proceed without pretending to solve this question.

Physical Characters

It remains to give some idea of the physical characteristics of the people with whom this report is to deal. To any one who has overcome the antipathy of mere strangeness the Orokaiva may well appear a handsome and prepossessing race. The best example will be a man of medium height, clean-limbed, muscular, and spare. The colour of the skin is predominantly darkish brown, though there is variation in both directions. The hair is of the woolly texture common to natives of Papua, and black in colour. The features are fairly clear-cut. The nose, usually straight, is not unduly broad in appearance and is often well defined. The brow ridge is somewhat marked and the jaws strong. The lips are sometimes full but not specially so. The mouth is commonly firm, and the face often shows deep lines.

In general appearance the Orokaiva may stand midway between the typical Papuan and the typical Melanesian. He has neither the prominent convex nose and the narrow forehead of the former, nor the broad and somewhat smooth countenance of the latter.

The results of measurements upon 81 individuals are given below. Of these 36 belonged to the Aiga tribe, 28 to Wasida, and 17 to Sangara.

Cephalic Indices.
General average: 74·2 . . . { Aiga 74·7; Wasida 73·8; Sangara 73·9 }

Extremes: 66·6–81·9.
Modes: 72–3 and 74–5.

Nasal Indices.
General average: 91·4 . . . { Aiga 89·1; Wasida 92·7; Sangara 94·2 }

Extremes: 70·4–110·6.
Modes: 88–9 and 100–1.

1:Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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Height.
General average: 159·7 cm. . . { Aiga 159·7, Wasida 159·8, Sangara 159·6

Extremes: 148·5–170·5
Mode: 160–1.

Chest.[1]
General average: 83·7 cm. . . { Aiga 83·75, Wasida 84·2, Sangara 82·5

Extremes: 73–92.
Mode: 80–1

Weight.
General average: 112·5 lb. . . { Aiga 124·7, Wasida 111·6, Sangara 103·7

Extremes: 90–150.

142 I am unable to refer the skin colour to any standard, and can only describe it as darkish brown. But an observer will note three fairly distinct categories, viz. (1) the usual darkish brown, (2) a distinctly darker shade on the one hand, and (3) a lighter shade on the other. The darker colour approaches that of the Gulf native and the lighter is commonly seen among the Eastern Melanesians of New Guinea. In measuring the natives I have noted whether they are Medium, Dark, or Light:

Skin Colour (75 cases):

Medium	54·7 per cent.
Dark	29·3 „
Light	16·0 „

The typical Orokaiva nose is straight in profile; but many cases show more or less marked degrees of convexity and concavity. The marked convexity of a true Papuan nose is seen, but not commonly.

Nose Profile (80 cases):

Straight	47·5 per cent.
Convex	36·25 „
Concave	16·25 „

[1] Taken at the level of the nipples with the arms raised above the head.

1:Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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(a) A Woman of Wasida

(b) An Orokaiva Profile

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(c, d) Two Orokaiva Profiles

PLATE II [facing p. 40]

1:Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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lead pencil which fall about his shoulders something in the manner of the Chief Justice's wig. Notwithstanding grease and dirt, it is a distinctly becoming mode, particularly when to the profusion of his locks he adds the tassels of red-dyed *kapiya*, the transparent skin that lines the inner side of the areca spathe. To an Orokaiva his hair is assuredly felt to be a crowning glory, though it is often far from being the well-trimmed and flowing mass that I have pictured. His head is sometimes scraggy and sometimes even bald—a state which is regarded with curious aversion and attributed to some early indiscretion or ceremonial neglect.

The hair is cut short in mourning, and sometimes as a last desperate measure to free it from lice. In the former case it is an example of the self-sacrifice or self-castigation which is so common in sorrow, though a man may allow himself a little decorative effect as compensation for the loss (*vide* concentric circles on Plate XXVII). Nowadays many wear their hair short for mere convenience.

A woman's hair is dressed in the same way as a man's while she is young, i.e. with tags and red streamers. At marriage she is likely, though not bound, to cut it short; and when she has borne a child or two she will certainly do so. This I am assured is a case of modesty: a matron does not care to masquerade as a 'flapper' (and the same reason is given for the fact that married women wear comparatively few ornaments). Some informants have also suggested that a husband does not care to see his wife make herself too attractive to other men, and others that a mass of long hair interferes with the carrying of the *eti*, or string bag for taro.

Natives are clean-shaven except for some old men and some who have allowed their beards to grow in mourning. The beard is never of very strong growth. Nowadays moustaches are commonly copied from the white man and especially affected by those who have served in the Armed Constabulary. Shaving is done with a glass fragment (formerly one of quartz); with twisted fibres; and by plucking out the hairs with a bivalve for tweezers.

1:Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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(*a*) Beating Clay for Pottery

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(*b*) Making Wooden Dishes, *Tava*

PLATE XVII [Facing p. 78]

1:Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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Boy Playing the Pipe, *Hiviro*

PLATE XX [facing p.86]

1:Williams E,G-5 (1923-1925) 1930
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(*a*) Hair shaved in Mourning.
Not an usual mode

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(*b*) The *Bahari* or Exposure Platform for the Corpse

PLATE XXVII [Facing p. 213]

2: Williams E, G-5 (1923-1925) 1928
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[Facing P. iii]

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TATIKO, A TARO MAN

See page 49

2: Williams E, G-5 (1923-1925) 1928
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YAVIRIPA

One of the originators of the Taro Cult

[Facing p.78]

2: Williams E, G-5 (1923-1925) 1928
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BIA OF MANAU

See page 74

[facing p. 200]